(d) whether any concrete steps have been taken by the Centre for implementation of the scheme as proposed by the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No final judgement has been passed on 9th September 2002. However, in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 196/2002 filed by People's Union for Civil Liberties *v/s* Union of India and others the Hon'ble Supreme Court have passed an order on 29.10.2002 directing, *inter alia*, the States to respond promptly to the correspondences of Commissioners appointed by the Hon'ble Court; translate and display the order of the court on all Gram Panchayats, school buildings and Fair Price Shops and give wide publicity on All India Radio and Doordarshan; prevent deaths due to starvation or malnutrition etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Central Government have allocated foodgrains on the basis of enrolment figures supplied by States/UTs. In addition, admissible transportation charges are being reimbursed to State/district agencies. The Government has been constantly urging the States/UTs, currently not providing cooked meals, to implement a cooked meal programme.

Hiring historians for writing textbooks

417. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give up hiring historians and sponsoring or publishing textbooks and hand over the same to the experts and the NCERT;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) The Central Government does not publish any textbooks and hence the question of hiring historians by the Government for writing textbooks does not arise.

Model textbooks are prepared by the NCERT, who identifies suitable authors and experts for writing them.

Relief to Rajdhani Express accident victims

418. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent accident of Rajdhani Express near Gaya in September last revealed some serious lapses with regard to relief and rescue operations for the accident victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the reasons for the lapses have been identified;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to draw up a plan for remedial and corrective action for tackling such contingencies;

(e) whether there is a proposal to acquire helicopters for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Funds for rail projects in Tamil Nadu

419. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Railways is allocating very meagre amount for the ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu including HRTS of Gauge conversion as compared to other States;

(b) if so, whether Government would allot sufficient funds to speed up the railway projects in the State in future; and